

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GW, FR

SUBJ: GERMAN-FRENCH COOPERATION IN FAST BREEDER
REACTOR DEVELOPMENT

REF: BONN 10164 (NOTAL)

1. JUNE ISSUE OF "ATOM INFORMATIONEN," THE PUBLICA-
TION OF THE GERMAN ATOMIC FORUM, CONTAINS REPORT ON
CURRENT STATUS OF SUBJECT COOPERATIVE PROGRAM.
FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY INFORMAL TRANSLATION.

2. BEGIN INFORMAL TRANSLATION: PROCEEDING FROM THE
JOINT DECLARATION OF FEBRUARY 13, 1976, BY THE FEDERAL
MINISTER FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE FRG AND
THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND RESEARCH OF THE FRENCH
REPUBLIC ABOUT GERMAN-FRENCH COOPERATION IN THE FIELD
OF ADVANCED REACTOR SYSTEMS, THREE AGREEMENTS FOR
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COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF FAST BREEDERS WERE CON-

CLUDED IN BONN ON MAY 18. THE COOPERATION INCLUDES THE COMPLETE FIELD OF FAST BREEDER REACTORS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FUEL.

3. IN THE AREA OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT, THE FRENCH CEA AND THE GERMAN SOCIETY FOR NUCLEAR RESEARCH HAVE AGREED ON A COORDINATION OF THEIR R&D WORK WITH THE OBJECTIVES OF AVOIDING DUPLICATION AND THE CLOSING OF SCIENTIFIC GAPS. AT THE PRESENT, THE CEA SPENDS ABOUT 400 MILLION FRANCS FOR FAST BREEDER DEVELOPMENT PER YEAR; THE FRG SOMEWHAT LESS. IT IS PLANNED TO EQUALIZE THE EXPENDITURES IN BOTH COUNTRIES QUICKLY SO THAT A TOTAL OF ABOUT 800 MILLION FRANCS WILL BE USED FOR THIS FIELD YEARLY.

4. THE COMPLETE GERMAN AND FRENCH BREEDER "KNOW-HOW" WILL BE POOLED AND ASSEMBLED IN A "SYSTEMS COMPANY," IN WHICH FRANCE WILL HAVE A SHARE OF 65 PERCENT AND THE FRG 35 PERCENT. THIS COMPANY WILL HOLD THE LICENSES FOR THE PRESENT REACTORS AND MAKE THEM AVAILABLE FOR A FEE TO THIRD PARTIES. THE INCOME WILL BE DIVIDED WITH CONSIDERATION FOR THE ADVANCED POSITION OF FRANCE. THE MEMBERS OF THIS "SYSTEMS COMPANY" WILL BE NOVATOME IN FRANCE AND INTERATOM IN GERMANY. IT WAS AGREED THAT THE SHARE OF INTERATOM WILL INCREASE TO 49 PERCENT WHEN GERMAN INDUSTRY HAS RECEIVED THE CONTRACT FOR ITS SEVENTH REACTOR, PROBABLY IN 15 TO 20 YEARS.

5. FINALLY, NOVATOME AND INTERATOM CONCLUDED IN BONN AN AGREEMENT ABOUT INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION. BOTH COMPANIES BECOME LICENSEES OF THE "SYSTEMS COMPANY" AND WILL LATER FORM A JOINT COMPANY ON AN EQUAL BASIS AS SOON AS THE MARKET PERMITS. THE OBJECTIVE OF THIS DEVELOPMENT IS TO OVERCOME IN TIME THE PRESENT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE FRENCH (POOL) AND THE GERMAN (LOOP) DESIGNS AND TO DEVELOP A UNIFIED MODEL. END INFORMAL TRANSLATION.
HILLENBRAND

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